
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6494

AN ACT CONCERNING DRIVERS' SCHOOLS AND ADULT INSTRUCTION PERMITS.

SUMMARY:

This bill prohibits the motor vehicles commissioner from issuing a driver's license to anyone age 18 or older who has an adult instruction permit unless the applicant has (1) successfully completed 10 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction and submitted, along with the application, a written statement, signed by his or her instructor, attesting to the successful completion of the instruction and (2) held the permit for at least (a) 90 days or (b) 45 days and completed a state-approved driving course. Current law does not say for how long someone age 18 or older must hold an adult instruction permit before applying for a license.

Under the bill, the behind-the-wheel instruction must be given by a (1) licensed driving instructor or (2) driver age 20 or older licensed for at least four years preceding the time of instruction whose license was not suspended during that period.

The bill also sets a maximum \$150 fee for the safe driving practices course that 16- and 17-year-old driver's license applicants must take. Current law sets a maximum \$125 fee for the course, but allows a fee of up to \$150 if the course includes the testing on comprehensive knowledge and rules of the road required for a license. By law, the safe driving practices course must be at least eight hours long, and include at least four hours on the dangers of, and penalties for, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and of the risks of alcohol and drug abuse.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Adult Instruction Permit

PA 12-81 requires people age 18 or over seeking a driver's license to obtain an adult instruction permit before driving on a public road. When driving, the permit holder must have the permit in his or her immediate possession and be under the instruction of a (1) licensed driving instructor or (2) person age 20 or older who has held a driver's license for at least four years and has not had it suspended during the four years before teaching the permit holder.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 33 Nay 1 (03/15/2013)